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Serial No.: 09/394,918
Group Art Unit: 3724
Examiner: O. Flores-Sanchez

the longitudinal axis of the substrate and two opposing lateral rows of the cutting marks are provided along the lateral axis with the substrate areas positioned between the longitudinal and lateral rows of the cutting marks; ¹¹²

positioning the saw machine with respect to a first substrate area according to the alignment marks of the first substrate area along the longitudinal axis and cutting the substrate strip on cutting tracks defined between respective ones of the cutting marks parallel to the lateral axis; and

repositioning the saw machine with respect to an adjacent one of the substrate areas and cutting the substrate strip according to the step of positioning the saw machine, whereby cutting error that results from each substrate area will not accumulate to the adjacent substrate area.--

REMARKS

New claim 13 has been added, and upon entry of the amendments above claims 7 and 9-13 remain pending in the application.

After the personal interview with the Examiner, new claim 13 is presented for review by the Examiner since it is believed that new independent claim 13 clearly represents the inventive scope of the application and distinguishes over the cited art. All of the amendments are fully supported by the original disclosure of this application and therefore do not constitute the introduction of any new matter into this case.

STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW

Applicant thanks the Examiner and Primary Examiner Kenneth Peterson for the courteous interview held on January 29, 2002. During the interview the Examiners and Applicant's Attorney discussed claim 7, and in particular, page 3, second full paragraph of the Amendment and Response filed on January 25, 2002.

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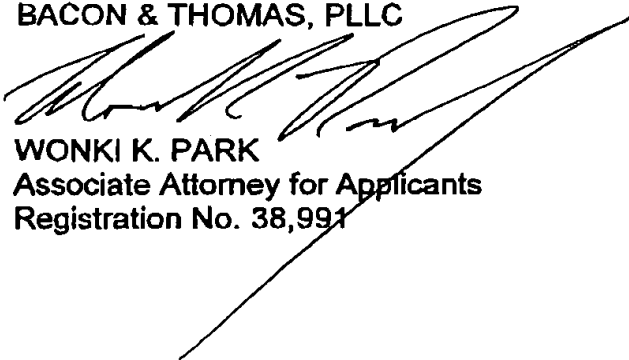
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As is noted in the interview summary, the Examiner indicated that if claim 7 is amended to add language that distinguishes over the reference to Shimizu et al., the application will be reviewed favorably. It was also agreed in the interview that the use of the reference to Shimizu et al. under 35 U.S.C. 102 (a) is improper.

New claim 13 recites language which clearly illustrates the inventive subject matter that distinguishes over the Shimizu et al. reference. In accordance with the interview, new claim 13 is presented which can replace claim 7 if the Examiner allows claim 13, upon which claims 9-12 can also be amended to depend from claim 13. If further amendments are believed necessary please contact the Applicant's Attorney.

Respectfully submitted,
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